

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

B-4158

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION
PART 1 - EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

MAR 20 1987

MARYLAND HISTORICAL
TRUST

NPS Office Use Only

Project Number:

Instructions: Read the instructions carefully before completing application. No certification will be made unless a completed application form has been received. Use typewriter or print clearly in black ink. If additional space is needed, use continuation sheets or attach blank sheets.

1. Name of property: MERCHANTS HOUSE
 Address of property: 1732 THAMES STREET
 City BALTIMORE County _____ State MD. Zip Code 21231
 Name of historic district: FELLS POINT
☒ National Register district ☐ certified state or local district ☐ potential historic district

2. Check nature of request:

- ☒ certification that the building contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for the purpose of rehabilitation.
☒ certification that the structure or building and, where appropriate, the land area on which such a structure or building is located contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes.
☐ certification that the building does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
☐ preliminary determination for individual listing in the National Register.
☐ preliminary determination that a building located within a potential historic district contributes to the significance of the district.
☐ preliminary determination that a building outside the period or area of significance contributes to the significance of the district.

3. Authorized project contact:

Name ROBERT L. ENEY Title MANAGER
 Street 1815 THAMES STREET City BALTIMORE
 State MARYLAND Zip 21231 Telephone Number (during day): 301-732-5256
522-7377

4. Owner:

Name LUCRETIA B. FISHER
 Street 1907 RUXTON ROAD City BALTIMORE
 State MARYLAND Zip 21204 Telephone Number (during day): 301-823 5730

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I own the above-named property.

Owner's Signature Lucretia B. Fisher Date 7/1986
 Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number [REDACTED]

NPS Office Use Only

The National Park Service has reviewed the "Historic Preservation Certification Application - Part 1" for the above-named property and hereby determines that the property:

- ☐ contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.
☐ contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.
☐ does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.

Preliminary Determinations:

- ☐ appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer according to the procedures set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
☐ does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely not be listed in the National Register.
☐ appears to contribute to the significance of a potential historic district, which will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.
☐ appears to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district but is outside the period or area of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS.
☐ does not appear to qualify as a certified historic structure.

Date

National Park Service Authorized Signature

National Park Service Office

MERCHANTS HOUSE

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION-

NPS Office Use Only

Property Name

1732 THAMES ST. BALTO. MD. 21231 PART 1

Project Number:

Property Address

LUCRETIA B. FISHER [REDACTED]

0 Name/Social Security or Taxpayer ID Number

B-4158

5. Description of physical appearance:

SEE PHOTOS

SEE ATTACHED THREE (3) PAGES PART I, #5

Date of Construction: 1808-1810

Source of Date: BALTO. CITY COURTHSE. RECORDS

Date(s) of Alteration(s): 1920?

Has building been moved? ☐ yes ☒ no. If so, when? _____

6. Statement of significance:

SEE ATTACHED SHEET PART I, #6

7. Photographs and maps.

Attach photographs and maps to application.

Continuation sheets attached: ☒ yes ☐ no

MERCHANTS HOUSE
1732 THAMES ST.
BALTO. MD. 21231
LUCRETIA B. FISHER 212-32-2231 2
PART I, #5 PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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regular alignments and aside from the bullnose architrave there is no recognizable architectural feature. There are numerous large cracks in the walls of the back building and in some places the daylight shows through two courses of bricks.

The interior of the first floor of the main building is divided into two principal spaces. A shop in front and a living space behind which is entered either from the shop or through the door from the passage. The shop room has retained the original architrave around the windows and the doors and a four foot high vertical tongue and groove wainscot surrounds the room. The living space also retains the original architrave around the windows and doors as well as the baseboards, the chairrails, the fireplace surround and a cupboard with panelled doors. The doors have a sunken panel on the room side and a moulded hip raised panel on the inside. This curious feature is repeated in all of the cupboards and closets on the upper floors. The stairway to the upper floors rises from the room and all traces of trim have been removed.

The upper floors repeat the layout of the first floor except that a stair hall separates the front rooms from the rear rooms. The exposed parts of the stairs on the second and third floors are of mid nineteenth century vintage. All of the rooms on the upper floors have retained most of the original architraves, baseboards, chair/rails, mantels and panelled cupboards. The second floor front room is especially note worthy, the proportions of the room are outstanding along with the mantelpiece and the matching overdoor. The work here is of the finer Federal sort. the attic has a front and rear room each lit by a single dormer, with the original wood trim intact, including the original lattice stairhand rail. The floors here and in all the other rooms except the store room are original wide boards in good condition.

The three story back building has one room on each floor. The room on the ground floor is entered through the original back door from the living space. The door architrave is intact. The entry to the rooms on the second and third floors is through former window openings altered into doors. The lintels above the doors are still intact. There is little in the way of wood trim in any of the back buildings rooms and what

MILKMAN'S HOUSE

1732 THAMES ST.

BALTO. MD. 21231

LUCRETIA B. FISHER 212, 32, 2239 3

PART I, #5 PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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exists is simply one inch by one inch lumber. The floors are narrow boards and slant downward to the rear of the building. Much of the plaster is off and the exposed lathes are of the machine sawn type.

MEMORANDUM TO USE

1732 THAMES ST.

BALTO. MD. 21231

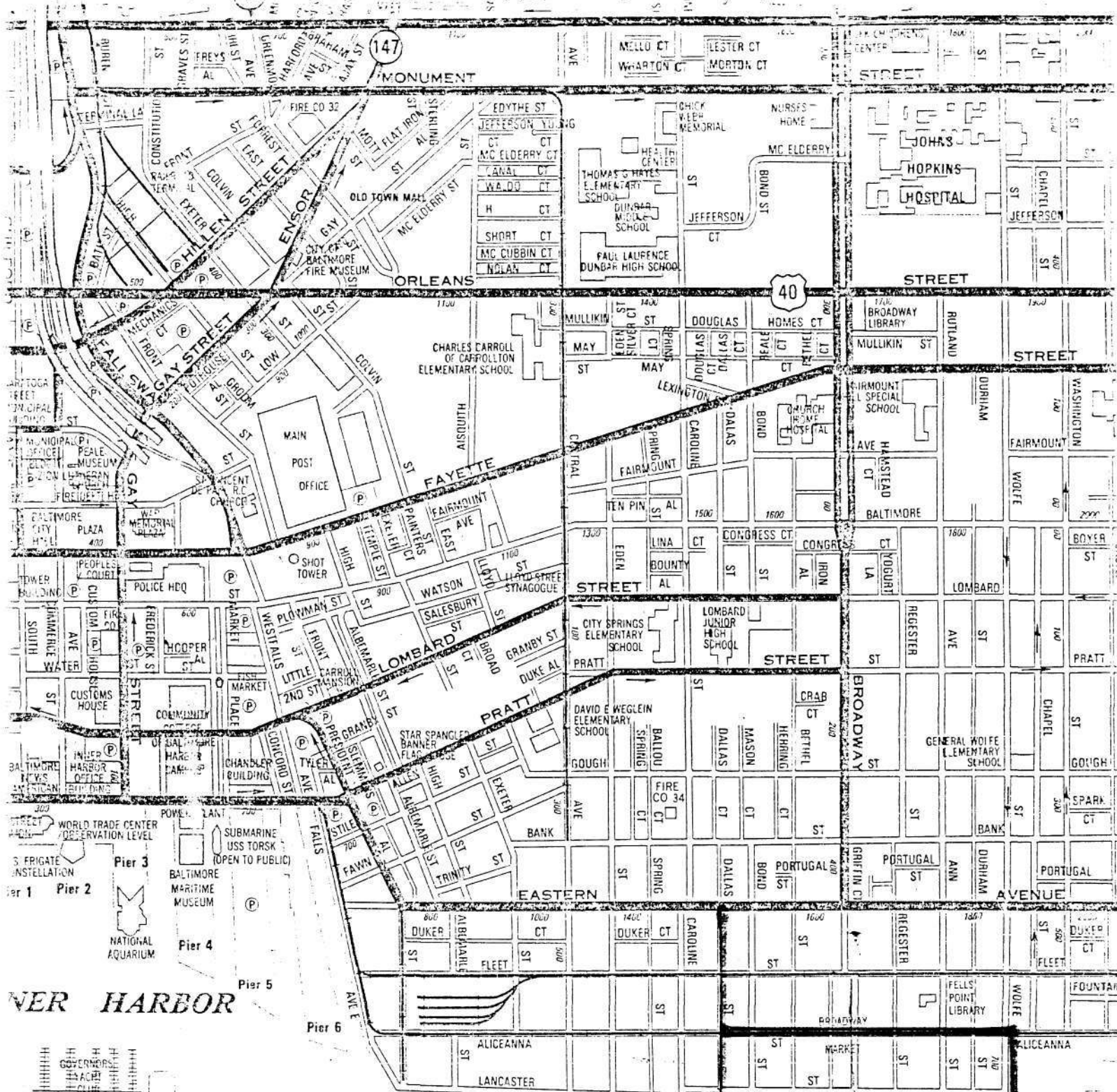
LUCRETIA B. FISHER 212-32-2239

PART I #6. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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This building is situated in the Fells Point Historic District looking across Thames Street into the open harbor. When visitors approach Fells Point by boat, 1732 Thames Street is the central and dominant structure one sees amid a cluster of early gable-roofed houses. Over the years this group of buildings has become the "post card view, the artists' favorite rendering of Fells Point, the symbol of the area.

The building is an excellent example of the larger Federal Era merchants combined dwelling and shop. With the exterior, floor plan and interior appointments having survived with so little alteration, it provides a good basis for the study of early Baltimore architecture.



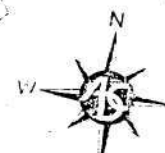
DOWNTOWN BALTIMORE

SCALE



Parking

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NORTHWEST

1732 THAMES

HARBOR

B-4158
1732 Thames Street
Block 1861 Lot 026
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

